

Appl. No. 10/708,108
Amdt. dated November 5, 2004
Reply to Office action of October 8, 2004

REMARKS

In response to the Office action identified above, please accept the following remarks.

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1. Election/Restrictions:

- (1) This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claims invention:

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Species I: detailed as embodiment 1, with figures 8-14;

Species I: detailed as embodiment 2, with figures 15 and 16.

- (2) Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C.121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, none of the claims are generic.

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- (3) Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected constant with this requirement, and a listing of all the claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

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- (4) Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141, if claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

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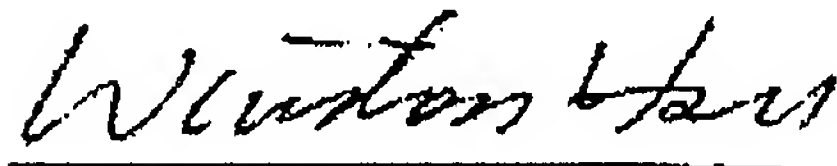
Response:

Applicant has elected Species I and has accordingly amended the claims in the above AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS section. Claims 1-16 are elected
5 as the subject matter to be examined in the present application. Claims 17-32 are non-elected and are therefore cancelled. The amendments made to claim 1 are supported in the disclosure on page 16, line 12 to page 17, line 26 of the present application. No new matter is introduced.

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Sincerely yours,

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Date: November 5, 2004

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